

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 816

By Harwell

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mayor Karl Dean upon his election as Mayor of Metropolitan Nashville and for his meritorious service to the citizens of Nashville and Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens, who through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Mayor Karl Dean, an estimable public servant who has dedicated his personal time, efforts, and excellence to improving the quality of life and the environment of his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Dean was elected as the sixth mayor of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County. On September 11, 2007, having received the most votes in both the general and run-off elections; and

WHEREAS, after defeating several other candidates in a previous general election, Karl Dean was elected on September 11, 2007, in a runoff election against opposing candidate, former United States Representative Bob Clement; he received the most votes in both the general and run-off elections; and

WHEREAS, an exemplary public servant and professional, Karl Dean brings a wealth of public service experience to the mayor's office; and

WHEREAS, born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and raised in Gardner, Massachusetts, Karl Dean earned his undergraduate degree from Columbia University; and

WHEREAS, he first came to Nashville to attend law school and earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Vanderbilt Law School in 1981; Karl Dean would later return to Vanderbilt Law School to mold legal minds as an adjunct Professor of Law; and

WHEREAS, after working in a Massachusetts law firm for a while, Mayor Dean moved back to Nashville and settled there permanently, expertly serving as an assistant public defender; and

WHEREAS, he first held public office when he was elected as Public Defender of Metropolitan Nashville in 1990, and he was honored with the distinction of being re-elected in 1994 and 1998; and

WHEREAS, during his sterling tenure as Public Defender, Mayor Phil Bredesen appointed Karl Dean to serve on the Commission of Twelve, a specially formed crime prevention task force; and

WHEREAS, Karl Dean also rendered impeccable service as Metro Law Director from 1999 to January, 2007, in which position he advised Mayor Bill Purcell on legal issues and spearheaded efforts to revitalize neighborhoods by closing down over thirty massage parlors and other adult businesses that operated as houses of illegal activities; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, Mayor Dean further honed his public service and government skills by completing the Senior Executives in State and Local Government program at the prestigious John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard; and

WHEREAS, Karl Dean is a giving person who epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, a civic-minded man, Mayor Dean has graciously served as an active member and effective leader in numerous community organizations; he has served as President of the Board of the United Cerebral Palsy of Middle Tennessee and has been a board member of Greenways for Nashville, Leadership Nashville Alumni, the Oasis Center, the National Conference for Community and Justice, and Reconciliation Ministries; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Karl Dean epitomizes the indomitable spirit and stalwart commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Dean is deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavors to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Karl Dean is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his supportive wife, Anne, whom he met in law school and

who has rendered stellar service as a professor at Vanderbilt Law School for nearly twenty years; and

WHEREAS, Karl Dean is also deeply appreciative of the devotion of his and Anne's three children, Rascoe, Frances, and Wallen; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Dean's outstanding success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with and relate to people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Mayor Karl Dean for his dedication to Metropolitan Nashville and the state of Tennessee and their citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Mayor Karl Dean upon his election as Mayor of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, commend him for his meritorious service to the state of Tennessee and the people of Nashville, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.